December, 1996 in case of Air India Corporation Ltd. Versus United Labour Union and others;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) total number of contract labourers that have been regularised on permanent basis, so far, in Public Sector Undertakings in light of Supreme Court judgement?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) The judgement of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 6.12.96 in the case of Air India Statutory Corporation Vs. United Labour Union is the established law under Article 141 of the Constitution. It was published in 1997 LLR 288 and AIR 1997 SC 645. The implications of the judgement were examined in consultation with the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs and directions were issued to the enforcement agency of Ministry of Labour of strictly implement the judgement in its letter and spirits.

The information about the regularised contract workers by different ministries, departments etc., is not maintained centrally. However, as per available reports, 2978 workers have been regularised in two major Central Public Sector Undertakings.

Legislation for Minimum Age-Limit

†*266. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Govt. propose to bring a legislation to fix the minimum age-limit for employment; and

(b) if so, by when Govt. propose to bring the legislation in this regard so that incidence of Child Labour can be curbed?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) The Govt. is considering to enact a Central legislation fixing a minimum age for admission to employment and work. Inter-ministerial consultation is in progress and on arriving at a consensus, a Bill to this effect will be introduced in the Parliament.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.